

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

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FM AMCONSUL GENOA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1396

UNCLAS GENOA 0174

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, IT (CASTAGNE, FRANK NOT RPT NOT CASTAGNA)

SUBJ: DEATH AND DISPOSITION OF REMAINS (FRANK CASTAGNE)

REF: STATE 091183

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST

1. FRANK CASTAGNE, U.S. CITIZEN BORN 14 NOVEMBER 1943, AMERICAN SEAMAN BEARER U.S. MERCHANT MARINERS DOCUMENT NO. Z-118-34-3807 (SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER SAME), ON BOARD SS TAMPA, VOYAGE 174, OPERATED BY SEALAND CONTAINER CORPORATION, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY, DIED IN PORT OF GENOA ON 15 APRIL 1975 CAUSE OF DEATH APPARENTLY RESULT OF ACCIDENTAL DROWNING.

2. CONGEN UNDERSTANDS THAT SEALAND CONTAINER CORP. AT ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY ORDERED SEALAND OFFICE IN GENOA TO HAVE SUBJECT S REMAINS EMBALMED SO THAT THEY COULD BE DISPLAYED UPON ARRIVAL IN U.S. AUTOPSY ORDERED BY LOCAL JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES PERFORMED APRIL 16

AND 17. ON APRIL 18 WHEN REMAINS DELIVERED TO OFFICIAL MEDICAL EMBALMER TOTAL EMBALMING WAS INITIATED TO PERMIT SHOWING REMAINS UPON

THEIR ARRIVAL IN U.S. THIS INVOLVED A LENGTHY AND COMPLICATED PROCESS

LASTING APPROXIMATELY SIX DAYS. WHEN U.S. FUNERAL DIRECTOR TELEPHONED

CONGEN AFTERNOON OF APRIL 18 REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING SHIPMENT, LOCAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR EMBALMING ADVISED THAT TOTAL

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EMBALMING PROCESS WAS UNDER WAY AND COULD NEITHER BE INTERRUPTED NOR

TRANSFERRED TO U.S. MILITARY MORTICIAN IN VICENZA.

FUTURE POST BURIAL REPORTS WILL INCLUDE INFO RE USE OF U.S. MILITARY MORTUARY FACILITIES.

3. CONGEN REGRETS THIS MATTER WHICH IS CAUSING FAMILY MEMBERS SO MUCH

ANXIETY. HOWEVER,ARRANGEMENTS APPARENTLY MADE BY SEALAND IN GOOD FAITH

SINCE FAMILY WISHED TO SHOW REMAINS AND BECAUSE OF THREE DAY DELAY, THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE ONLY BY TOTAL EMBALMING. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH LOCAL UNDERTAKER WHO EXPECTS TO SHIP REMAINS ON APRIL 28 OR 29. WE WILL CABLE ETA AND FLIGHT NUMBER WHEN INFORMATION AVAILABLE. U.S. FUNERAL DIRECTOR: GUARINO FUNERAL HOME, 9222 FLATLANDS AVENUE, BROOKLYN, N.Y. TEL. (212) 257-2890, AS WELL AS SISTER AND BROTHER OF DECEASED HAVE BEEN IN TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH CONSUL GENERAL BRUNO ON TWO OCCASIONS AND REASONS FOR DELAY HAVE BEEN CCAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO THEM.BRUNO

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